

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The listing of claims provided below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

5 1. (Currently Amended) A method for automated acquisition of assertions in a specification of a computer program, comprising ~~the operations of:~~

 receiving ~~an input~~ the specification as an input, wherein the ~~input~~ specification includes ~~comprises~~ a plurality of sentences describing the computer program;

 obtaining a sentence from the plurality of sentences;

10 determining whether the obtained sentence is a testable assertion, wherein the testable assertion describes behavior of an application programming interface that can be tested; and

 marking the obtained sentence as testable when the obtained sentence is a testable assertion; and

15 using the sentences marked as testable to determine whether a test suite for testing the computer program is adequate.

 2. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

20 ~~the operation of~~ identifying a context within the specification.

 3. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method as recited in claim 2, wherein the operation of obtaining the sentence from the plurality of sentences includes parsing the context to obtain the sentence.

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4. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method as recited in claim 3, further comprising:

~~the operation of~~ adding the marked obtained sentence to an assertion result set.

5 5. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method as recited in claim 4, wherein the context is a set of circumstances related to the obtained sentence.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method as recited in claim 5, wherein each assertion includes ~~comprises~~ at least one sentence of the specification.

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7. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method as recited in claim 5 ~~[[9]]~~, wherein each assertion includes ~~can comprises~~ at least two sentences of the specification.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media including program instructions for automatically obtaining assertions from a specification of ~~for~~ a computer program, comprising:

a code segment that receives ~~an input~~ the specification as an input ~~for a computer program~~;

a code segment that identifies a context within the ~~input~~ specification;

20 a code segment that parses the identified context to obtain sentences ~~assertions~~;

a code segment that determines whether the obtained sentences ~~assertions~~ are testable assertions statements, wherein each testable assertion is a sentence that describes behavior of an application programming interface that can be tested; and

a code segment that adds the testable ~~obtained~~ assertions to an assertion result set,
25 wherein the assertion result set can be used to facilitate testing of the specification.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ computer readable media of program as ~~recited in~~ claim 8, further comprising:

a code segment that filters the identified context prior to parsing the context.

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10. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ computer readable media of program as ~~recited in~~ claim 9, wherein the code segment that receives the specification is defined to receive the specification in a text format ~~an assertion is an implied statement that can be tested.~~

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11. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ computer readable media of program as ~~recited in~~ claim 9, wherein the context is a set of circumstances related to the obtained sentences ~~assertions~~.

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12. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ computer readable media of program as ~~recited in~~ claim 9, wherein each assertion includes ~~comprises~~ at least one sentence of the specification.

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13. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ computer readable media of program as ~~recited in~~ claim 9, wherein each assertion includes ~~can comprises~~ at least two sentences of the specification.

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14. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media including program instructions for automated acquisition of assertions in a specification of a computer program, comprising:

a code segment that receives ~~an input~~ the specification in a text format, wherein the ~~input~~ specification includes ~~comprises~~ a plurality of sentences;

a code segment that obtains a sentence from the plurality of sentences;

a code segment that determines whether the obtained sentence is a testable
5 assertion, wherein the testable assertion describes behavior of an application
programming interface that can be tested; and

a code segment that marks the obtained sentence as testable when the obtained sentence is a testable assertion.

10 15. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer readable media of ~~program as~~
~~recited in~~ claim 14, further comprising:

a code segment that identifies a context within the specification.

15 16. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer readable media of ~~program as~~
~~recited in~~ claim 15, wherein the code segment that obtains the sentence from the plurality of sentences includes a code segment that parses the context to obtain the sentence.

17. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer readable media of ~~program as~~
~~recited in~~ claim 16, further comprising:

20 a code segment that adds the marked obtained sentence to an assertion result set.

18. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] computer readable media of ~~program as~~
~~recited in~~ claim 17, wherein the context is a set of circumstances related to the obtained sentence.

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19. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ computer readable media of ~~program as~~
~~recited in~~ claim 18, wherein each assertion includes ~~can comprises~~ at least one sentence of the
specification.

5 20. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ computer readable media of ~~program as~~
~~recited in~~ claim 19, wherein each assertion includes ~~can comprises~~ at least two sentences
of the specification.

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